

1.84.070 Appointment of special counsel.

- A. At least 90 days prior to a City election, the City Council shall appoint a special counsel for that election and such additional special counsel as may be required, on such terms and conditions as the City Council deems appropriate.
- B. The special counsel shall be the District Attorney, the Attorney General, or such other qualified and independent special counsel or combination of the foregoing as may be appointed by the City Council.

1.84.080 Enforcement.

- A. *Review and Investigation of Complaints.*
 - 1. The City's review and investigation of complaints of alleged violations of this chapter shall be commenced and carried out only by an appointed special counsel.
 - 2. If the special counsel determines that there is a reason to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, special counsel shall conduct an investigation as it deems necessary for the enforcement of this chapter.
 - 3. The special counsel shall have such investigative powers as are necessary for the performance of duties described in this chapter and may demand and shall be furnished records of campaign contributions and expenditures of any person or committee subject to this chapter. In the event that production of such records is refused, the special counsel may commence civil litigation to complete such production.
- B. Persons residing in the City who believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred may file a written complaint for review by the special counsel. If the complaint presents probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred, the special counsel will initiate an investigation of such violation.
- C. *Action to Enforce.* If the special counsel determines that there is good reason to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, special counsel may commence such administrative, civil, or criminal legal action as it deems necessary for the enforcement of this chapter.
- D. Review, investigation, enforcement, litigation, and prosecution under this chapter shall be commenced and carried out only by an appointed special counsel.
- E. Activity by special counsel in accordance with this chapter shall not be subject to review or control by the City Council or City Attorney.
- F. The City Attorney shall not review, investigate, prosecute or otherwise deal with any alleged violation of this chapter, but shall defend the constitutionality and legality of this chapter in any civil proceeding in which the City or the City Council is a party.

G. Any action alleging a violation of this chapter must be commenced no later than four months after the mandatory filing date for semi-annual statements which cover the period during which the violation is alleged to have occurred, but in no case later than six months from the date of the related election.

The Coronado Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 2025-11, passed December 16, 2025.

Disclaimer: The City Clerk's Office has the official version of the Coronado Municipal Code. Users should contact the City Clerk's Office for ordinances passed subsequent to the ordinance cited above.

[City Website: www.coronado.ca.us](http://www.coronado.ca.us)

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